

*For Immediate Release*

## IDOC Commissioner Recognizes LaPorte County Judge

LaPorte, Indiana (December 10, 2009) – Today in a ceremony at the LaPorte County Juvenile Center, Indiana Department of Correction Commissioner (IDOC) Commissioner Edwin G. Buss recognized and thanked LaPorte County Circuit Court Judge Thomas Alevizos for his strong commitment to the juvenile justice system.

Commissioner Buss presented Judge Alevizos with a Distinguished Hoosier Award signed by Governor Mitch Daniels. The Distinguished Hoosier Award is one of the highest awards given by the State of Indiana to its citizens. It is given at the discretion of the Governor to Hoosiers who have brought honor to the state through their character and accomplishments.

In addition, Commissioner Buss gave Judge Alevizos a commemorative, historic lock from the Indiana State Prison to thank him for his support of the IDOC and the rehabilitation of offenders through diversion, education, and re-entry programs.



Commissioner Buss (left) presents a Distinguished Hoosier Award to Judge Alevizos (right).

“Partnerships in the criminal justice system are extremely valuable, especially to best provide public safety while promoting offender re-entry. The Indiana Department of Correction is grateful to have such a positive relationship with Judge Alevizos and thanks him for his continuing work for juvenile offenders,” said Commissioner Buss.

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